

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ALGIER 01280 220924Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /018 W
-----220928Z 128489 /10
R 220725Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6501

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 1280

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2
TAGS: PFOR, AG,US
SUBJECT: BIO ON AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE MAOUI

REF: STATE 113500

1. FOLLOWING IS PARTIAL RESPONSE TO REFTEL.

2. MAOUI'S CAREER: BORN 10 APRIL 1929, MARRIED, THREE CHILDREN. LAW DEGREE. STUDIED ECONOMICS AT TOULOUSE. HELD SEVERAL POSTS UNDER THE GPRA AND WAS PARTICULARLY ASSOCIATED WITH BOUSSOUF. MILITANT IN FLN DURING REVOLUTION, AND JOINED ALN 1957. AFTER INDEPENDENCE WAS DIRECTOR OF CABINET AND POLITICAL ADVISER TO FERHAT ABBAS. MARCH 1963 BECAME DIRECTOR OF CABINET IN MINISTRY OF INTERIOR UNDER MEDEGHRI. APPOINTED SECYGEN OF MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN SEPTEMBER 1964. MINISTER OF TOURISM IN BOUMEDIENE GOVERNMENT OF JULY 1965. HELD THIS POST UNTIL APRIL 1977.

EM PERSONAL: MAOUI IS LARGE FOR AN ALGERIAN, ABOUT SIX FEET TALL AND 200 POUNDS. HE IS SOFT-SPOKEN AND AMIABLE AND DOES NOT GIVE THE IMPRESSION OF MUCH DYNAMISM. HE SMOKES. HIS FATHER IS FROM CONSTANTINE AND HIS MOTHER FROM TLEMCEN. HE GIVES IMPRESSION OF BEING CULTURED AND WELL EDUCATED. WHEN AMBASSADOR PARKER PAID A COURTESY CALL ON HIM
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IN OCTOBER 1975 HIS OFFICE WAS TASTEFULLY FURNISHED WITH PAINTINGS BY ALGERIAN ARTISTS KHEDDA AND SAMSUM DISPLAYED. PAINTINGS DESCRIBED BY SOME OBSERVERS AS "REALLY DECENT."

4. LANGUAGES: MAOUI SPEAKS FRENCH AND PRESUMABLY ARABIC. HE IS STUDYING ENGLISH BUT DOES NOT SEEM TO

LIKE USING IT IN CONVERSATION.

5. ASSESSMENT. DURING HIS 12 YEARS AS MINISTER OF TOURISM MAOUI EARNED A REPUTATION AS A "BOURGEOIS" TYPE WHO WAS MORE INTERESTED IN FEATHERING HIS OWN NEST THAN IN PROMOTING TOURISM IN ALGERIA. HIS SUBORDINATES IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM DESCRIBE HIM AS INTELLIGENT AND A COMPETENT BUREAUCRAT BUT AS A MAN LACKING THE DRIVE NEEDED TO RAISE THE LOW PRIORITY CURRENTLY ASSIGNED TOURISM BY ALGERIAN REGIME. OTHER OBSERVERS CONSIDER MAOUI TO BE STUPID, VAIN AND EASY-GOING, IN SHORT, A LIGHTWEIGHT. LARGE PERSONAL RESIDENCE HE HAS BEEN HAVING BUILT IN TOURISM MINISTRY "EQUIPMENT DEPOT" ACROSS STREET FROM AMERICAN EMBASSY HAS AROUSED AMUSED, NEGATIVE COMMENT.

6. DESPITE HIS MIXED REVIEWS, BOUMEDIENE HAS TERMED MAOUI A "CONFIDANT" AND OTHER REGIME SPOKESMEN HAVE LOST NO OPPORTUNITY TO PRAISE NEW AMBASSADOR.

7. MRS. MAOUI: NO ANSWERS YET TO QUESTIONS ON MRS. MAOUI POSED REFTEL. WILL DO BEST TO DEVELOP REQUIRED INFORMATION BUT EXPECT MUCH OF TASK WILL REMAIN UNDONE WHEN MAOUI ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON. LYNE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE, BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Errors: N/A
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